

COUNTRY

Romania

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Military Installations in Sibiu

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EVALUATION

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REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. Cavalry Barracks, occupied by mounted Rumanian units. The installation contains yellow brick buildings surrounded by a brick wall. The barracks section north of the road to Brasov (R 35/X 37) was substantially enlarged in 1948 and 1949, when the construction of four additional barracks buildings were observed. Residents of the city stated that the installation was heavily occupied. Source himself repeatedly observed mounted units with small Hungarian horses riding out toward the open terrain to the southeast. The troops were armed with carbines and machine guns which seemed to be German model 34 heavy machine guns. Their uniforms resembled the Soviet field uniforms. (1)
2. Infantry Barracks, quartering about 1,000 Rumanian troops. The installation was a multiple-story, old, rectangular, yellow building with an inner courtyard. The entrance was located in the center of the north side of the building. The troops there were equipped with horse-drawn vehicles and wore Soviet-type field uniforms with field caps. They were armed with carbines, light machine guns, and Soviet heavy water-cooled machine guns. Local residents said that the headquarters of the unit was also located in the installation. When moving out for field training, the unit always proceeded on the road toward Brasov.
3. Artillery Barracks, quartering a Rumanian artillery unit. It was an old installation which was simultaneously repaired and enlarged in 1948 and 1949. Several new stables and, in the southwestern section of the billeting area, three new barracks buildings were constructed at that time. A Rumanian who served with the unit until 1949 stated that the installation quartered the 35th Arty Regt. Source himself observed horse-drawn artillery units with guns of about 150 mm. Each gun was towed by a team of six medium-size horses. The gun crews of six men wearing black epaulets sat on the limbers. The length of the artillery pieces, including the limbers, was estimated at 8 meters. The guns had barrels with reinforced muzzles covered by leather hoods, straight protective shields, solid tires, about 150 cm in diameter, and large hand-wheels at the right of the breech blocks. (2)

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4. Ordnance depot of old brick buildings and several wooden sheds on its west side. Junge Waldstrasse with a single-track streetcar line ran past the depot. Source observed frequently, but at irregular intervals, that weapons were loaded or unloaded at the freight station, after they had been towed from or to the depot by tractors. The loading work was always performed by Rumanian soldiers of the ordnance depot. The weapons included AT guns of about 75 mm, AA guns of about 80 mm, mortars of about 120 mm, 4-barreled AA guns and other unidentified weapons covered with tarpaulins. Rumanian workers stated that small arms were also repaired at the depot. Watchtowers stood at the main gate and in all corners of the depot area. (3)
5. Military post hospital, adjoining the ordnance depot on the north. It was painted yellow in 1949.
6. Infantry and artillery officer candidate school, referred to as a cadet school by the Rumanian townspeople.
7. So-called "Political Police" Barracks at the Cibin River. The installation was an old rectangular brick structure surrounding an open courtyard. The troops there wore light-blue epaulets and field caps, while officers wore visor-type caps. Residents of Sibiu estimated the number of troops there at 800. The troops were equipped with carbines; about 30 percent of them also had Soviet submachine guns. No vehicles were noticed. The Ninth of May Street ran past southwestern side of the installation. The distance from the installation to the bridge across the Cibin River was about 75 meters.
8. Former factory west of the Cibin River, quartering police troops who also wore light-blue epaulets. The factory had been converted into a barracks in 1946 and 1947. Its distinctive recognition feature was a 30-meter smokestack in the southwestern section of the billeting area. The troops there were estimated at 300 to 400 and were equipped with small Hungarian horses. When marching through the city, they were armed with carbines and submachine guns. (4)
9. Barracks installation south of Molotov Street, quartering the Sibiu municipal police of about 500 men. The installation was shaped like a horseshoe and was enlarged in 1947 and 1948, when three new white stuccoed buildings were constructed. The police there, who seemed to be organized into four companies, wore blue uniforms with dark-red service color on their epaulets and visor-type caps. The unit which frequently left for training was armed with carbines, submachine guns, light machine guns, and heavy water-cooled machine guns. No motor vehicles were noticed. Residents stated that the headquarters of the police unit was also located in the installation. (5)
10. Office of the political police, a large old villa on the north side of the street. The office building was reconditioned and enlarged in 1949 and 1950. Political interrogations were conducted there.
11. Rumanian recruiting office.
12. Military bakery with an old grain mill. The bakery was shut down most of the time and was put into operation only if bread there was insufficient for the military requirements. An average of 80 tons of wheat flour for the military post were stored in the bakery at all times. An average of 20 tons of wheat were daily ground for the armed forces in the adjoining mill.

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13. Storage shed of the freight yard. The shed was about 80 meters long, had a loading ramp along its east side and an end ramp for one railroad track on its south side.
- 13a. Stone ramp along the railroad track. The ramp adjoined the storage shed on the south and extended beyond the railroad underpass. It was suitable for the loading of vehicles of all types. No loading or unloading machinery was available. Loading and unloading of ordnance depot materiel was done on this ramp.
14. Grain storage depot northwest of the main railroad station. (23) The depot consisted of three old, yellow brick buildings and a new wooden building which was constructed in 1949. The old buildings had a capacity of 10,000 tons of wheat and the new building of 5,000 tons. The depot was stocked with grain as high as the roof at all times. Incoming and outgoing shipments were made by truck. The industrial railroad spur leading to the depot was not used. The depot was run by civilian authorities, guarded by policemen, and served both civilian and military purposes.
15. "Independenza" farm machinery factory, which produced, in addition to farm implements, limbers for field kitchens with iron wheels and limbers for light guns with disk wheels with rubber tires. These limbers were frequently seen at the ramp of the freight yard and were loaded at irregular intervals. Trains of 25 to 30 cars were constantly seen hauling off these limbers. The loading was done by personnel from the ordnance depot. Workmen stated that the factory which was guarded by industrial police, was also turning out shells. However, source never observed any outgoing shipments of ammunition.
16. Gasoline and oil depot in the northwestern sector of the city, near the streetcar terminus. The depot contained 8 dark-green fuel tanks in one section and 2 other fuel tanks, surrounded by a mound of earth about 2 1/2 meters high, in another section. All 10 tanks, which were about 8 meters high and 5 to 6 meters in diameter, were interconnected by surface pipe lines. A new bronze-painted tank, about 2 meters higher than the other tanks, was constructed in the center of the depot in 1949 and 1950. The pumping station of the depot was connected by underground pipe lines with the Turnisor (R 35/R 20) railroad station, where source once observed 10 large tank cars on a side track. Workers said that the gasoline and the oil came from Ploesti (R 43/44/ C 69). The depot served military and civilian purposes. Troops from Sibiu usually picked up fuel on horse-drawn vehicles in 200 and 400-liter barrels. The fuel depot was guarded from watchtowers and floodlit at night.
17. Grain mill opposite the fuel depot. The mill ground 15 tons a day for the armed forces exclusively. It was an old Diesel-powered installation and included a storage room which was filled with 150 tons of wheat flour at all times.
18. So-called "Young Forest".
19. Municipal hospital of 3 buildings which were stuccoed white in 1948.
20. Old high school for boys.
21. Square of the Republic.
22. Power plant with 2 turbines and 2 coal-burning boilers. A third turbine and a third coal-burning boiler were under construction.

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23. Passenger railroad station, a three-story brick building.

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Comments.

- (1) Large cavalry barracks which previously quartered a cavalry school, cavalry training center and a cavalry regiment are known to be located in Sibiu. These installations were occupied by the Soviets in 1947.
- (2) The 35th Arty Regt was located in the Artillery Barracks prior to World War II.
- (3) The ordnance depot in Sibiu was repeatedly confirmed until May 1951.
- (4) The blue service color indicates units of the security police (Securitate).
- (5) Probably militia personnel.

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1 Annex: 1 blueprint.

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